

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully considered the matters raised by the Examiner in the outstanding Office Action but remains of the opinion that patentable subject matter is present. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the Examiner's position based on the above amendments to the claims and the following remarks.

First, it should be noted that the Examiner indicated Claims 12, 14, and 17 contained allowable subject matter. Claims 12, 14 and 17 have been presented herein as independent claims 21-23, respectively. It will be noted that claim 12 should have been dependent upon claim 11, thus, claim 21 incorporates the limitation of claims 1, 11 and 12. Because claims 12, 14 and 17 have been presented in independent format, claims 12, 14, and 17 have been cancelled.

Turning to the other amendments made to the claims, claim 1 has been amended to add the limitations of claim 4 and claim 4 has been cancelled. Claim 16 has been amended herein as suggested by the Examiner. Claim 18 has been amended herein because of the amendments made to claim 1, the redundant subject matter was deleted from claim 18. Claim 19 has been amended herein to add the

Finally, claims 1 and 19 were amended to refer to one of the surfaces as suggested by the Examiner and to emphasize that the layer is a surface layer. No new matter has been entered into the claims by way of these amendments.

Turning to the rejection based on the art, claims 1-11, 13, 15 and 19-20, had been rejected as being anticipated by Tucker while claims 16 and 18 had been rejected as being unpatentable over Tucker.

Tucker teaches sunglasses which are formed in a laminate process wherein two lenses are joined together using an adhesive containing ultraviolet absorbers. Sunglasses of Tucker are very different than the optical element claimed in the present Invention because the layer of the present Invention is a surface layer formed on the image side of the lens.

As described on page 17, lines 9-17, layer 12 is formed on the entire surface of the image side of optical element 10 as shown in Fig. 1. The term "image side" can be equated with the back side of the lens. Claims 1 and 19, which are the independent claims herein, have been amended to specifically recite that the layer is formed on the image side of the entire surface of the lens.

The Inventor found that there is a harmful influence of ultraviolet rays reflected from the back surface of a lens for a human eye or an optical sensor, such as the CCD. The Inventor then conceived of the idea to provide a layer on the back surface of the lens to reduce the reflection of ultraviolet rays coming into the back surface of a lens.

Thus, there are at least two differences between the present Invention and Tucker. First, that the layer of the present Invention is formed as a surface layer while Tucker teaches forming a layer between two lenses. The second difference is the fact that the present Invention is forming a layer on the back side or image side surface of the lens while Tucker is forming his adhesive material in between two lenses.

It is respectfully submitted that, based on the teachings of Tucker, one would not modify Tucker to use his adhesive layer on the back side of a lens in order to reduce the reflection of ultraviolet rays coming into the back side of the lens. Tucker's adhesive layers perform two functions, one to adhere the two lenses and, two, to act as a location for ultraviolet absorbers. Thus, it is submitted that one would not modify Tucker in order to arrive at the present Invention since such would destroy the eyeglasses of Tucker. It would destroy Tucker's eyeglasses because one would

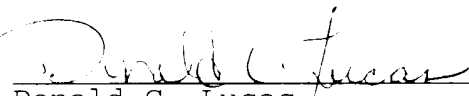
have to eliminate one of the lenses in order to arrive at the present Invention. It is submitted that such a modification is not proper.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the Application is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. PTO Form 2038 is enclosed herewith authorizing payment of the appropriate government filing fee for two extra independent claims. However, should any further fees or extensions of time be necessary in order to maintain this Application in pending condition, appropriate requests are hereby made and authorization is given to debit Account # 02-2275.

Respectfully submitted,

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Encl: Executed PTO Form 2038
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